UNITED NATIONS **S**

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1997/896
17 November 1997
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ARABIC

LETTER DATED 16 NOVEMBER 1997 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you that violations of Iraq's airspace by United States aircraft continued over the period 12-14 November 1997 and that the aircraft in question carried out reconnaissance and engaged in acts of provocation, as set forth in the annex hereto.

I request your intervention with a view to bringing a halt to actions that, as flagrant violations of the Charter of the United Nations and of international law, pose a threat to the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Iraq.

These acts continue to alarm the civilian population and to cause serious damage to private and public property. The Republic of Iraq affirms its right to seek legal compensation for the damage being inflicted on the Iraqi people and the Iraqi State by these actions.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Nizar HAMDOON
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annex

Violations of Iraq's airspace and damage caused 12-14 November 1997

1. In the northern region 104 sorties were flown, at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 6,000 to 9,000 metres, over the following Iraqi cities and towns: Zakho, Dohuk, Irbil, Mosul, Tall Afar, Aqrah, Amadiyah, Rawandoz, Baibo and Ayn Zalah.

2. In the southern region 269 sorties were flown, at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 6,000 to 9,000 metres, over the following Iraqi cities and towns: Nasiriyah, Samawah, Basra, Chabaish, Artawi, Rumaythah, Shatrah and Jalibah.

3. Three United States TR-1 reconnaissance aircraft flying at a speed of 600 kilometres per hour and at an altitude of 20,000 metres violated the Republic of Iraq's airspace in the southern region before leaving in the direction of Kuwait.

4. At 1020 hours, 1500 hours and 1511 hours on 4 November 1997, United States aircraft violated Iraq's airspace over the Umm Qasr area.

5. At 0845 hours on 6 November 1997, a United States aircraft overflew Mina' al-Bakr.

6. At 0945 hours on 8 November 1997, a helicopter from United States frigate 51 overflew Mina' al-Bakr.

7. At 0900 hours on 9 November 1997, a helicopter from United States frigate 51 overflew Mina' al-Bakr.

8. At 1012 hours and 1013 hours on 9 November 1997, United States aircraft violated Iraq's airspace over the Umm Qasr area.

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General Assembly
Security Council

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A/52/684
S/1997/897
17 November 1997

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Fifty-second session
Agenda item 61
QUESTION OF CYPRUS

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-second year

Letter dated 12 November 1997 from the Permanent Representative of Cyprus to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government and further to our letter dated 4 November 1997 (A/52/569-S/1997/852), I have the honour to draw your attention to new illegal and unacceptable Turkish actions of serious concern. These actions, more specifically the continuing violations of the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus and the flight information region of Nicosia and the further strengthening of the already excessive military armaments of the Turkish forces illegally occupying Cyprus, are escalating the existing tension in the island, the root cause of which is the invasion and the continuing, for more than 23 years now, Turkish occupation of 37 per cent of the territory of the Republic of Cyprus.

On 3 November, two RF-4 military planes, two CN-235s and one Gulfstream (G-4) violated the Nicosia flight information region and the national airspace of the Republic.

On 4 November, 17 Turkish military planes, of which 12 were F-16s, 2 were RF-4s, 2 were Gulfstreams and 1 was a CN-235, entered the Nicosia flight information region and subsequently violated the national airspace of the Republic. Of the above-mentioned military planes four F-16s, two Gulfstreams and one CN-235 landed at the illegal airport of "Lefkoniko" in the Turkish occupied area of Cyprus.

In addition, according to information received by the Republic of Cyprus, on 16 and 17 October, 12 mobile artillery units (M 110, 203 mm) were brought to the occupied part of Cyprus through the illegal port of Famagusta. It should be noted that this was the first time the Turkish occupation forces were equipped with this type of weaponry.

As pointed out in our previous letters, these Turkish actions, which are in violation of repeated General Assembly and Security Council resolutions, further aggravate the situation in Cyprus. On behalf of the Government of the Republic of Cyprus, I wish to protest strongly once again the new violations of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Cyprus, which are in complete disregard of international law, the Charter of the United Nations and the relevant decisions and resolutions of the Organization on the question of Cyprus. I would request, therefore, that all necessary measures be taken to stop such provocative actions.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 61, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Sotos ZACKHEOS
Ambassador
Permanent Representative
of the Republic of Cyprus
to the United Nations

UNITED
NATIONS

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Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1997/898
17 November 1997
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ARABIC

LETTER DATED 17 NOVEMBER 1997 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a letter dated 16 November 1997 addressed to you by Mr. Mohammed Said Al-Sahaf, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Iraq, concerning United States pronouncements urging the maintenance of the sanctions imposed by the Security Council on Iraq as long as the national regime in Iraq remains in place, calling attention to the United States military preparations for aggression against Iraq and urging you to meet your responsibilities with respect to the maintenance of international peace and security in this region of the world.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Nizar HAMDOON
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

97-32268 (E) 171197 171197

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Annex

Letter dated 16 November 1997 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iraq addressed to the Secretary-General

I should like to draw your attention to the decision of United States President Bill Clinton, as announced to reporters at the White House on Friday, 14 November 1997, to send the aircraft carrier George Washington to the Gulf region as part of the United States military preparations for renewed military aggression against Iraq. I should also like to refer to the report from Agence France-Presse in Washington on the same day that President Clinton had once again stated that the sanctions imposed on Iraq would remain in place as long as President Saddam Hussein was in power.

The frantic campaign being waged by the United States and the United Kingdom once again confirms that the United States of America is endeavouring to act against the will of the international community in the context of its pursuit of a policy of exercising hegemony over the Security Council, the United Nations and the world as a whole. During the consultations and at the formal meeting held by the Security Council on 12 November 1997, many of the Council's members, and three of its permanent members in particular, namely the Russian Federation, China and France, expressed outright rejection of threats to resort to military aggression against Iraq. Diplomatic efforts are under way within the Security Council with a view to resolving the ongoing crisis between Iraq and the Special Commission.

In addition to the statements made on the matter by a significant number of representatives of States members of the Council, many States in the region and elsewhere have expressed absolute rejection of the threats made by the United States to launch military aggression against Iraq.

The President of the United States, then, continues to assert that the sanctions imposed on Iraq will be maintained as long as the national regime in Iraq remains in place. This confirms the fact that Iraq's complaints with respect to United States policy towards it, as exemplified by its requiring the unjust embargo against Iraq to be maintained despite its compliance with the relevant Security Council resolutions, are just, true and well-founded.

The only conclusion to be drawn from the statements of the United States President is that the sanctions imposed on Iraq were designed from the outset and have been maintained thus far in order to achieve that objective of the United States and not for purposes of so-called compliance by Iraq with the Security Council resolutions relating to the destruction of prohibited weapons and equipment. Iraqi officials have done everything in their power to alert the members of the Security Council and the international community to this fact, and I think Mr. Tariq Aziz, at his meeting with you during his recent visit to New York, made clear to you the illegality and unlawfulness of the position taken by the United States and the fact that it bears no relation to the relevant Security Council resolutions.

The irresponsible actions of the United States constitute open defiance and a grave violation of the Charter of the United Nations, the norms of international law and the Security Council resolutions themselves, which constantly affirm respect for Iraq's sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence. Iraq condemns in the strongest terms these actions targeting a founding member of the United Nations, and it urges you to intervene personally with the Government of the United States of America with a view to its halting its frantic military campaign. It further calls upon you to meet in full your responsibility under the Charter to make every endeavour to maintain international peace and security in this important region of the world.

I request you to have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Mohammed Said Al-SAHAF
Minister for Foreign Affairs of
the Republic of Iraq

UNITED
NATIONS

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Security Council

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GENERAL

S/1997/899
17 November 1997
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ARABIC

LETTER DATED 17 NOVEMBER 1997 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a letter dated 16 November 1997 addressed to you by Mr. Mohammed Said Al-Sahaf, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Iraq, concerning Iraq's cooperation in facilitating the Special Commission's activities in Iraq.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Nizar HAMDOON
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

97-32274 (E) 171197 171197

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Annex

Letter dated 16 November 1997 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iraq addressed to the President of the Security Council

I should like to refer to the letter dated 29 October 1997 from Mr. Tariq Aziz, Deputy Prime Minister of Iraq, addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/1997/829, annex). That letter communicated the decision of the Government of Iraq to the effect that it is ready to continue its cooperation with the Special Commission and to reach agreement with it on balanced arrangements to enable it fully to perform its task, in accordance with the legal framework and without excesses, provided that no one bearing United States nationality participates in any of the activities of the Special Commission in Iraq, especially activities involving inspections, interviews and ground-based and aerial surveillance. Subsequent to our letter of 11 November 1997 (S/1997/873, annex), the Special Commission's Baghdad Monitoring and Verification Centre (BMVC) notified the National Monitoring Directorate, the Iraqi counterpart agency to the BMVC, that it would undertake the regular and unannounced inspection activities of which particulars and dates are given hereunder. As each group prepared to depart from the BMVC, it was calmly informed by its Iraqi escort that Americans could not engage in inspection activities. At the same time, the Iraqi escort informed the group that the Iraqi authorities were ready to cooperate fully in providing assistance and ensuring that the requirements were met for a successful inspection by the remaining members of the team and in facilitating their task. The Iraqi escort would reiterate the same stance when the group moved off and as it was arriving at the site for inspection. On each occasion, and without any real justification, the group would cancel its scheduled activities either immediately or while travelling to the inspection site or after arriving at the site. These activities are listed hereunder in chronological order.

Sunday, 9 November 1997

1. Visit to Al-Harith Establishment by the MG-15 missile group.

2. Visit to an unknown objective by the CG-12 chemical group together with a group from the CSCI-1 inspection team.

3. Visit to the Al-Kindi Company by the BG-11 biological group together with a group from the CSCI-1 inspection team.

4. Visit to an unknown objective by two groups from the CSCI-1 inspection team together with the chemical group and the biological group.

Tuesday, 11 November 1997

1. Unannounced visit to Al-Karamah General Establishment by the MG-15 missile group.

2. Unannounced visit to the road leading to Al-Qa'qa' Establishment and Al-Rashid Establishment by one subgroup of the CG-12 chemical group, and a visit

by a second CG-12 subgroup and a group from the CSCI-1 inspection team to the Baghdad-Kut road.

3. Unannounced visit to the Harithiyah area by the BG-11 biological group together with export/import monitoring group and a group from the CSCI-1 inspection team.

4. Visit to the two objectives indicated under 2 and 3 above by two groups from the CSCI-1 inspection team together with the chemical and biological monitoring groups.

Wednesday, 12 November 1997

1. Visit to Al-Nida' General Establishment by the MG-15 missile group.

2. Unannounced visit to an undeclared objective by a subgroup of the CG-12 chemical group together with the CSCI-1 inspection team, and an unannounced visit by a second CG-12 subgroup to the Baghdad-Hillah road.

3. Unannounced visit to an unknown objective by a subgroup of the BG-11 biological group together with the CSCI-1 inspection team, and an unannounced visit by a second BG-11 subgroup together with the export/import group and a group from the CSCI-1 inspection team to the Amiriyah area.

4. Unannounced visit to the Amiriyah area by the EG-8 export/import group together with the second biological group.

5. Reconnaissance operation by the Aerial Inspection Team, which was cancelled before it began.

6. Visit to the sites mentioned under 2 and 3 above by two groups from the CSCI-1 inspection team together with two monitoring groups (missile, chemical and biological).

As you will have noted, the relevant Iraqi authorities have shown their readiness to cooperate with all inspection teams in which there are no American members. The Iraqi side will continue, in the best possible manner, to provide all facilities and to make available the requirements for the successful and efficient completion of the tasks of the inspection and monitoring teams.

(Signed) Mohammed Said AL-SAHAF
Minister for Foreign Affairs of
the Republic of Iraq

UNITED NATIONS **S**

Security Council

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S/1997/900
17 November 1997
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ARABIC

LETTER DATED 17 NOVEMBER 1997 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a letter dated 16 November 1997 addressed to you by Mr. Mohammed Said Al-Sahaf, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Iraq, concerning United States pronouncements urging the maintenance of the sanctions imposed by the Security Council on Iraq as long as the national regime in Iraq remains in place, calling attention to the United States military preparations for aggression against Iraq and urging you to meet your responsibilities with respect to the maintenance of international peace and security in this region of the world.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Nizar HAMDOON
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annex

Letter dated 16 November 1997 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iraq addressed to the President of the Security Council

I should like to draw your attention to the decision of United States President Bill Clinton, as announced to reporters at the White House on Friday, 14 November 1997, to send the aircraft carrier George Washington to the Gulf region as part of the United States military preparations for renewed military aggression against Iraq. I should also like to refer to the report from Agence France-Presse in Washington on the same day that President Clinton had once again stated that the sanctions imposed on Iraq would remain in place as long as President Saddam Hussein was in power.

The frantic campaign being waged by the United States and the United Kingdom once again confirms that the United States of America is endeavouring to act against the will of the international community in the context of its pursuit of a policy of exercising hegemony over the Security Council, the United Nations and the world as a whole. During the consultations and at the formal meeting held by the Security Council on 12 November 1997, many of the Council's members, and three of its permanent members in particular, namely the Russian Federation, China and France, expressed outright rejection of threats to resort to military aggression against Iraq. Diplomatic efforts are under way within the Security Council with a view to resolving the ongoing crisis between Iraq and the Special Commission.

In addition to the statements made on the matter by a significant number of representatives of States members of the Council, many States in the region and elsewhere have expressed absolute rejection of the threats made by the United States to launch military aggression against Iraq.

The President of the United States, then, continues to assert that the sanctions imposed on Iraq will be maintained as long as the national regime in Iraq remains in place. This confirms the fact that Iraq's complaints with respect to United States policy towards it, as exemplified by its requiring the unjust embargo against Iraq to be maintained despite its compliance with the relevant Security Council resolutions, are just, true and well-founded. I should like to refer in this connection to the letters dated 12 and 29 October 1997 from Mr. Tariq Aziz, Deputy Prime Minister of Iraq, addressed to the President of the Security Council, in which he elucidates this matter in detail and states that the only conclusion to be drawn from the successive statements of the United States President is that the sanctions imposed on Iraq were designed from the outset and have been maintained thus far in order to achieve that objective of the United States and not for purposes of Iraq's compliance with the Security Council resolutions relating to the destruction of prohibited weapons and equipment.

Throughout these years, Iraqi officials have done everything in their power to alert the members of the Security Council and the international community to this fact, and I think Mr. Tariq Aziz, at his meeting with you during his recent

visit to New York, made clear to you the illegality and unlawfulness of the position taken by the United States and the fact that it bears no relation to the relevant Security Council resolutions.

The irresponsible actions of the United States constitute open defiance and a grave violation of the Charter of the United Nations, the norms of international law and the Security Council resolutions themselves, which constantly affirm respect for Iraq's sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence. Iraq condemns in the strongest terms these actions targeting a founding member of the United Nations, and it urges you to intervene personally with the Government of the United States of America with a view to its halting its frantic military campaign. It further calls upon you to meet in full your responsibility under the Charter to make every endeavour to maintain international peace and security in this important region of the world.

I request you to bring this letter to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

(Signed) Mohammed Said Al-SAHAF
Minister for Foreign Affairs of
the Republic of Iraq

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Security Council

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GENERAL

S/1997/901
17 November 1997

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

NOTE VERBALE DATED 10 NOVEMBER 1997 FROM THE PERMANENT MISSION OF NEW ZEALAND TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

The Permanent Mission of New Zealand to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and has the honour to refer to his note of 16 October concerning sanctions imposed on Sierra Leone. The Permanent Mission of New Zealand wishes to advise that appropriate national legal measures have been taken by the Government of New Zealand in order to give effect to the provisions set out in paragraphs 5 and 6 of Security Council resolution 1132 (1997) of 8 October 1997.

97-32285 (E) 171197

UNITED NATIONS **S**

Security Council

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GENERAL

S/1997/902
17 November 1997

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 17 NOVEMBER 1997 FROM THE SECRETARY-GENERAL
ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to convey the attached communication, dated 14 November 1997, which I have received from the Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency.

I should be grateful if you would bring the Director General's letter to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

(Signed) Kofi A. ANNAN

97-32291 (E) 171197

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Annex

Letter dated 14 November 1997 from the Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency addressed to the Secretary-General

I wish to bring to your attention that notification was sent to the Iraqi authorities on the evening of 13 November 1997 advising them that, under the prevailing circumstances, it had been decided to withdraw the personnel of the Nuclear Monitoring Group of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) from Iraq until further notice.

The IAEA personnel departed from Iraq's Habbaniya airport at 0800 hours on 14 November 1997. They will remain in Bahrain while steps are taken to attempt to resolve the immediate situation.

I would ask you to bring this letter to the attention of the Security Council.

(Signed) Hans BLIX

UNITED NATIONS **S**

Security Council

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S/1997/903
18 November 1997
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ARABIC

LETTER DATED 18 NOVEMBER 1997 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you that violations of Iraq's airspace by United States aircraft continued on 15 and 16 November 1997 and that the aircraft in question carried out reconnaissance and engaged in acts of provocation, as set forth in the annex hereto.

Your intervention is requested with a view to bringing a halt to actions that, as flagrant violations of the Charter of the United Nations and of international law, pose a threat to the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Iraq.

These actions continue to alarm the civilian population and to cause serious damage to private and public property. The Republic of Iraq affirms its right to seek legal compensation for the damage being inflicted on the Iraqi people and the Iraqi State by these actions.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Nizar HAMDOON
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annex

Violations of Iraq's airspace and damage caused, 15 and 16 November 1997

1. In the northern region 42 sorties were flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 6,000 to 9,000 metres, over the following cities and towns: Zakho, Dohuk, Mosul, Tall Afar, Amadiyah and Sinjar.

2. In the southern region 270 sorties were flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 6,000 to 9,000 metres, over the following Iraqi cities and towns: Nasiriyah, Samawah, Basrah, Artawi, Rumaythah, Shatrah, Diwaniyah, Qal'at Sukkar, Najaf, Qurnah, Shinafiyah, Ar'ar, Hayy and Lasaf.

3. On three occasions United States TR-1 reconnaissance aircraft flying at a speed of 600 kilometres per hour and at an altitude of 20,000 metres violated the Republic of Iraq's airspace in the southern region before leaving in the direction of Kuwait.

4. At 0950 hours on 10 November 1997 United States aircraft violated Iraqi airspace in the Faw, Khawr al-Zubayr, Rafidiyah and Khawr Abd Allah areas.

UNITED NATIONS **S**

Security Council

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GENERAL

S/1997/904
20 November 1997

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Draft resolution

The Security Council,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force of 14 November 1997 (S/1997/884),

Decides:

(a) To call upon the parties concerned to implement immediately its resolution 338 (1973) of 22 October 1973;

(b) To renew the mandate of the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force for another period of six months, that is, until 31 May 1998;

(c) To request the Secretary-General to submit, at the end of this period, a report on the development in the situation and the measures taken to implement Security Council resolution 338 (1973).

97-33172 (E) 211197

UNITED NATIONS **S**

Security Council

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GENERAL

S/1997/905
19 November 1997
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ARABIC

LETTER DATED 19 NOVEMBER 1997 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a letter dated 19 November 1997 addressed to you by Mr. Mohammed Said Al-Sahaf, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Iraq, concerning the violation of Iraq's airspace by the United States U-2 spy plane on 18 November 1997 pursuant to a decision by the United States Administration.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Nizar HAMDOON
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annex

Letter dated 19 November 1997 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iraq addressed to the Secretary-General

At a time when intensive diplomatic and political efforts are being made to find a solution to the crisis contrived by the United States of America - which persists in beating the war drums, in reinforcing its military concentrations and in threatening to engage in brutal military aggression against the people of Iraq - and despite our numerous letters addressed to you concerning the espionage-related character of the United States U-2 aircraft, the most recent of which was that of 10 November 1997 (S/1997/867, annex), the United States spy plane in question violated our airspace, pursuant to a decision by the United States Administration, at 1125 hours Baghdad time on 18 November 1997. In so doing it once again violated, by military threat, the sovereignty of an independent State and a founding member of the United Nations. On this basis, it is not, even nominally or formally, one of the means used by the United Nations for monitoring purposes.

I should like to state once more that we shall act in its regard, and in regard to other United States aircraft that violate our airspace in this manner, in such a way as to safeguard Iraq's sovereignty and security.

I request you to have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Mohammed Said AL-SAHAF
Minister for Foreign Affairs of
the Republic of Iraq

UNITED
NATIONS

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Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1997/906
19 November 1997
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ARABIC

LETTER DATED 19 NOVEMBER 1997 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you that violations of Iraq's airspace by United States aircraft continued on 17 November 1997 and that the aircraft in question carried out reconnaissance and engaged in acts of provocation, as set forth in the annex hereto.

Your intervention is requested with a view to bringing a halt to actions that, as flagrant violations of the Charter of the United Nations and of international law, pose a threat to the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Iraq.

These actions continue to alarm the civilian population and to cause serious damage to private and public property. The Republic of Iraq affirms its right to seek legal compensation for the damage being inflicted on the Iraqi people and the Iraqi State by these actions.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Nizar HAMDOON
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

97-32689 (E) 201197 201197

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Annex

Violations of Iraq's airspace and damage caused, 17 November 1997

1. In the northern region 24 sorties were flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 6,000 to 9,000 metres, over the following cities and towns: Zakho, Dohuk, Mosul, Tall Afar, Amadiyah, Rawanduz, Irbil and Aqrah.

2. In the southern region 88 sorties were flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 6,000 to 9,000 metres, over the following Iraqi cities and towns: Nasiriyah, Samawah, Ushbayjah, Rumaythah, Shatrah, Qal'at Sukkar, Salman, Shinafiyah, Taqtaqanah, Lasaf, Suq al-Shuyukh, Khidr and Jalibah.

3. At 1055 hours a United States TR-1 reconnaissance aircraft flying at a speed of 600 kilometres per hour and at an altitude of 20,000 metres violated the Republic of Iraq's airspace in the southern region before leaving in the direction of Kuwait.

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Security Council

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GENERAL

S/1997/907
20 November 1997

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 20 NOVEMBER 1997 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES OF IRAQ AND THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

We have the honour to enclose herewith the text of the Joint Russian-Iraqi Declaration.

We should be grateful if the text of this Declaration is circulated as an official document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Sergey LAVROV
Permanent Representative
of the Russian Federation
to the United Nations

(Signed) Nizar HAMDOON
Permanent Representative
of Iraq to the United Nations

97-32796 (E) 201197 201197

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Annex

[Original: Arabic and Russian]

Joint Russian-Iraqi Declaration

Pursuant to an exchange of messages between Mr. Boris Yeltsin, President of the Russian Federation, and Mr. Saddam Hussein, President of the Republic of Iraq, Mr. Tariq Aziz, Deputy Prime Minister of the Republic of Iraq, visited Moscow on 18 and 19 November 1997, where he met Mr. Yeltsin and engaged in in-depth and intensive talks with Mr. Yevgeni Primakov, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation.

Both the exchange of messages between the two Presidents and the talks between Mr. Aziz and Mr. Primakov were aimed at finding a political and diplomatic solution to the current crisis. An agreement was reached whereby Iraq will accept the return of the Special Commission, with its full complement of members, to resume its regular work in Iraq as from 20 November 1997.

The Russian Federation, for its part, will work actively, subject to Iraq's implementation of the relevant Security Council resolutions, for a speedy lifting of the sanctions against Iraq, and, in particular, for the implementation of paragraph 22 of resolution 687 (1991) in strict conformity with the provisions set forth in it, and without any additional conditions. To that end, it will take active measures to enhance the effectiveness of the work of the Special Commission, while respecting the sovereignty and security of Iraq.

The two sides will remain in contact in accordance with the agreements reached.

UNITED NATIONS **S**

Security Council

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GENERAL

S/1997/908
20 November 1997
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ARABIC

LETTER DATED 20 NOVEMBER 1997 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a letter dated 20 November 1997 addressed to you by Mr. Mohammed Said Al-Sahaf, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Iraq, informing you of the decision of the Revolutionary Command Council to issue an invitation to the Special Commission, with its full complement of members, to return to Iraq to pursue its work there.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Nizar HAMDOON
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

97-32790 (E) 201197 201197

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ANNEX

Letter dated 20 November 1997 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iraq addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to inform you that Mr. Saddam Hussein, President of the Republic of Iraq, chaired a meeting of the Revolutionary Command Council on Thursday morning, 20 November 1997. That meeting produced a statement containing a decision by the Council to issue an invitation to the Special Commission, with its full complement of members, to return to Iraq to pursue its work there.

In addition, the Russian-Iraqi Joint Declaration of 20 November 1997 refers, inter alia, to the fact that an agreement has been reached whereby Iraq will accept the return of the Special Commission, with its full complement of members, to resume its work in Iraq.

I should be grateful if you would inform the members of the Security Council of this matter and have the present letter and its annex, consisting of the statement issued by the Revolutionary Command Council and the Russian-Iraqi Joint Declaration, circulated as a document of the Security Council. In addition, I should be grateful if you would inform the Executive Chairman of the Special Commission of this decision taken by the Government of Iraq.

Enclosure I

In the name of God the Compassionate, the Merciful!

To the glorious Iraqi people,

Worthy sons of the fatherland,

Friends of the Iraqi people throughout the world.

For over seven years the honourable women and glorious men of Iraq, upheld by their right to life, their patriotism and their human values, have resisted injustice and iniquity. Following a whole range of events, of which you will be well aware, and realizing that injustice could not overcome the truth, the forces of evil, headed by the United States of America, that modern incarnation of evil, decided to resort to the conduct of cowards devoid of all humanity and impose an unjust embargo on a proud and worthy people, the guardians of the great values of civilization, the glorious people of free Iraq. They justified their intrigues by various arguments, including the allegation that Iraq had not fulfilled its obligations, imposed on it by their iniquitous resolutions, to destroy arms and equipment termed prohibited under these resolutions.

Although convinced that all the injustices imposed on it result from a total lack of balance, equity and sense of proportion, and of values that are no longer upheld in the region and in the world, both because of the conditions prevailing in the region and because of the disappearance of certain fixed points which played a well-known role, Iraq has nevertheless complied with what are conventionally termed Security Council resolutions by undertaking the destruction of, among others, all so-called weapons of mass destruction and their associated equipment. Factories, workshops, assembly lines, equipment and private laboratories have been destroyed because the Americans considered that they might have supplied, or could supply, services for the prohibited activities. The inspection teams and their equipment, which are largely controlled by the Americans - who make no secret of their objectives, even though they differ from those of the Security Council - have throughout that time mocked the destiny of a whole people in order to delay a review of one of its most elementary and legitimate rights, the lifting of the embargo.

More serious still is the fact that, instead of showing some wisdom and taking the obvious step of applying paragraph 22 of resolution 687 (1991), enabling Iraq, through the Security Council, to export its oil and lay in supplies, the United States has set about manipulating its agents, who exercise a strong influence on the inspection teams, to persuade them to oppose the Iraqis on futile points, alleging, for example, that Iraq had not fulfilled its obligations, without allowing it to take its case to international forums such as the Security Council and the executive committee of the Special Commission. The United States has won over the majority of the members of the Security Council by dint of its diplomatic techniques and its well-known media techniques of disinformation and distortion of the truth, and persuaded them to adopt resolution 1134 (1997), which Iraq has rejected as being unjust and arbitrary in the expectation that the Security Council would work towards a lifting of the

embargo, which would be a just turn of events for this country and its great people.

The embargo claimed more than a million victims among the Iraqi people, who were also deprived of countless opportunities to progress and to live. The Americans destroyed all that they wished to destroy under the aegis of the Security Council which, for the reasons given above, has been sunk until recently in a kind of torpor. In the face of such arrogant, vile and immoral behaviour, Iraq has no other way of making its voice heard and claiming its rights but to expel the Americans from the country. In so doing it is merely exercising its right of sovereignty, which gives all States the right to expel foreigners whom it considers personae non gratae, even if they are members of the diplomatic corps.

Confronted with this definitive decision, the United States reacted disproportionately in adopting, as is its wont, an attitude of contempt for the law of nations and peoples, for humanitarian law and international law, with its threats to resort to brutal force. The great Iraqi people, however, builders of civilizations, who have resisted all invasions, rose as one man, taking up a position that not even the weakest spirits could ignore. The forces of evil then realized that on this occasion any aggression would cost them dear. The position of the Iraqi people has been supported by the Arab countries at both official and popular level and has been greeted with understanding in many international circles, even though some of them were not so long ago allies of the United States, which has found itself helpless in the face of this new situation. It is a complex situation, fraught with all manner of risks, and it must be tackled by those who seek a solution based on international legality and those who wish for Iraq's voice to be heard in demanding the lifting of the embargo. Those who believe in a just solution include Arab and international States and individuals, including some individuals whose countries are permanent members of the Security Council. Mr. Boris Yeltsin, President of the Russian Federation, has therefore, through his Minister for Foreign Affairs, undertaken a series of contacts and initiatives with Iraq. In-depth discussions between Moscow and Baghdad have resulted in an agreement to resolve the crisis on the basis of this just and equitable analysis. We have accepted this formula because it is the product of these discussions, because it takes account of the present realities and because it corresponds at least in part to our vision and our requirements, even if it does not satisfy all our rights. Whenever politics loses its way and forfeits its efficiency or when it is influenced by forces of evil which ignore international law and legal obligations towards Iraq, we can, after God, the All-powerful, count on our nation, with its love of justice, and on the great Iraqi people, with its men, its women and its children. Iraq will be able to attain all its aims with less effort and fewer sacrifices when its position is better understood in the Arab world and internationally. That is why we should not fear for the future.

Honourable Iraqi women and men,

You will be the makers of victory, with God's help, since you have been able to rise above the tide of events at every point.

On the basis of the agreement concluded with Russia, we have decided to invite the Special Commission, with all its members, to return to Iraq to resume its activities.

Dear brothers,

Dear friends,

Every time that a new conflict arises we find ourselves face to face with events that we could never have imagined might occur and the unimaginable becomes reality. We find ourselves in situations where those in power tell lies, proclaiming themselves champions of causes that fly in the face of justice. Such situations occur to a certain extent throughout the world and in most cases they are due to the United States of America and to those whom that country drags in its wake, persuading them to support certain Western causes and personalities. These causes and their adherents are taken up by the media, which vie with each other to spread their calumnies and lies.

During this crisis, as during previous crises and tense periods, these groups have redoubled their malignance, although totally discredited and having lost much of their credence in other spheres. The United States of America destroyed our installations, our factories, our arms and our equipment in any way they saw fit, reducing to smithereens what they called forbidden equipment or arms and even production lines and factories capable of making such material; meanwhile we, after suffering all these blows, with the United States openly threatening to resort to military force and continuing to lay down the law at every level - we undertook, as we have always done when threatened with aggression, to dismantle our factories, our workshops and our production lines, which we later transported from the sites that the American spy specialists knew down to the last detail. If we moved the installations it was to protect them against destruction. Indeed, we are an embattled country and, as you know, it is not easy for us to replace what we have lost, to assure the essential minimum for the survival of our brave people.

They said that Iraq had shifted the equipment and production plants away from the sites in order to use them to manufacture weapons of mass destruction, which had the potential to threaten life on the planet. They wept copious tears for the children of the world because of these alleged weapons, knowing that no sensible or educated person could believe them, but persisting in this lie, as with all the other fabrications, because they knew that not all of their audience had the background, education or information to be able to see the link between cause and effect and to see through their lies before they had insinuated them into the minds of those in whom they wished to instil fear of or anger towards Iraq.

Frustrated by their failure, they are now at a loss and furious that the Iraqi authorities have managed to shift their factories and installations away from the sites whose every detail they noted down in the book of crime, as an excuse to carry out the vile, evil and aggressive destruction of the people's property.

Is there a worse crime than lying to and deceiving the world? They are doing what they did when they made up stories and presented false information to the world, and even to institutions that are supposed to represent the people, namely the United States Congress (the Senate and the House of Representatives). This they did before and during the biggest phase of military aggression by the 30 allied countries against Iraq, over seven years ago, during the eternal Mother of all Battles and the three air and missile attacks launched against our people and our country, with no reference whatsoever to Security Council resolutions.

Dear Brothers and Friends,

Do you remember the slogans they used against Iraq and how they used them? Do you remember the decisions they took under the umbrella of the Security Council in August 1990 and later, during one and a half months of fighting in the biggest phase of hostility, involving 30 allied countries against Iraq? Do you remember the decisions they took right up to the ceasefire, declared by former United States President Bush without any conditions on his part and without the prior consent of Iraq? Iraq replied to the ceasefire in a public statement. The troops were separated with no conditions having been imposed, other than that neither of the military forces could pass over to the armies of the other side.

Until that moment, from August 1990 to March 1991, the slogans of the Security Council, America and its allies made no mention of disarming Iraq of its chemical or other weapons. Despite the hostility of 30 countries against Iraq, and despite the fact that those countries had the opportunity to drop or launch 141,921 tons of bombs and missiles against Iraq, the equivalent of over 100,000 tons of explosives, or about seven atomic bombs of the type which America dropped on Japan during the Second World War, Iraq never used chemical weapons during the war. It only used missiles for self-defence, and their power was only a tiny fraction of that of the weapons used by the odious alliance against it, and from which not even places of worship, civilian refugees, schools and colleges, churches and universities were spared.

We do not mean here to defend a right that we wish to reclaim, since all these weapons and factories have been destroyed. We only wish to say that America has used these lies and fabrications to plant, indirectly, in the minds of its listeners, the idea that Iraq used weapons of mass destruction, including chemical weapons, during the war and that it could, therefore, use them again. They also want to insinuate the idea that the disarming of these weapons was one of the conditions for ending the war to which the opposing sides had agreed. They want to suggest that Iraq alone possesses these weapons, which it does not need, and, since it did not need them, it is dangerous for it to have them. This, despite the fact that successive American Administrations have known that the effectiveness and perhaps even the quantity of such weapons in Iraq's possession during the war were inferior to those held by States and other entities in the region, some of whom were Iraq's enemies. The Zionist entity has nuclear weapons and, only last week, one of its ministers, in support of the hysterical campaign led by America against Iraq, threatened to use all of its biggest weapons, meaning its nuclear weapons, against Iraq, if Iraq used

conventional weapons against it. Not a single voice was raised in protest, despite the fact that Iraq had not threatened that monstrous entity.

Dear Brothers, we put these facts before you, hoping that we have not burdened you with them, but have made you aware of the duplicity, lies, distortion and falsehoods emanating from American officials and others who shout about lies and evil. We say to you with honour, sincerity and integrity, in the name of God the Merciful and the Compassionate, that Iraq has no chemical or biological weapons now. The non-Iraqi specialists have already established that Iraq has no missiles or nuclear weapons and the files have been closed on the matter.

All allegations to the contrary are nothing but lies and fabrications, which are not the result of ignorance or uncertainty, but rather are part of a plan by the Americans and others to maintain the sanctions, prolong the process of mass extinction and inflict suffering on the noble and ancient Iraqi people, contrary to the will of God and the precepts of humanity. This is the fruit of hatred for a great people which has opposed and shall, by the will of God, continue to oppose falsehoods, lies, slander and attempts to dominate and oppress them.

Dear Friends,

Dear Brother Arabs,

The Iraqi people has suffered such pain as could only be described by each individual Iraqi to the extent that he has been affected. Only God could comprehend the totality of that pain and all the elements in it. The Iraqi people, as you know and as you would wish of every lover of liberty, standard bearer of honour and independence and great keeper of the faith, have behaved with honour, standing up for truth and righteousness. They are beyond reproach, and neither listen to nor fear the voices that scream out their threats. The standard "God is great" shall ever be raised above their heads, offering them the greatest assistance of all. Long may they and their nation live! May they preserve their honour and do their duty! May they adhere to their human and national mission, as believers and holders of the faith! May they fear no evil, once their faithful prayer has rung out to the Lord of the Heavens and Earth, saying: "Lord keep our promise and believe in our pledge of faith and obedience to you, as we believe in your promise that the righteous shall be the victors and see Heaven ... Lord, strengthen our hearts in steadfast faith and righteousness, and make us the victors against the enemies of God and humanity."

O Lord, make our hearts firm in faith and truth, and give us victory over the enemies of God and of mankind.

> "Our Lord! Condemn us not if we forget, or miss the mark. Our Lord! Lay not on us such a burden as Thou didst lay on those before us. Our Lord! Impose not on us that which we have not the strength to bear! Pardon us, absolve us and have mercy on us, Thou, our Protector, and give us victory over the unbelievers." God's word is truth.

Members of our glorious nation, rulers and people:

This is the fruit of the struggle waged by your brothers, the great Iraqi people in Iraq, and a sublime fruit it is, on the road of struggle and the righteous cause, which has been and will continue to be the basis of every step forward. You have played your admirable role in that struggle, whether by making supportive statements, by speaking out against the United States aggression, by praying to God to make truth victorious over falsehood, or by keeping silence when speaking out would have been unhelpful. We, your people, in your Iraq, in your Baghdad, offer you our esteem, love and gratitude.

We ask God to unite our community in truth always, to exalt it in the eyes of both its friends and its foes, so that it may make its sons mighty and open for them a way to fulfil their eternal mission for themselves and for all humanity.

Greetings and regards to all friends of truth and fact in the world, who have raised their voices against falsehood and the United States aggression, seeking justice for proud Iraq, who has been wronged.

Greetings to them, including those who are permanent members of the Security Council, most notably the Russian Federation and its President, Mr. Yeltsin, who strove to end the perilous confrontation in which we are shedding quantities of blood, and who strove to bring a halt to the manifold forms of death resulting from the blockade, to which thousands of Iraqis have fallen, victims of injustice and aggression.

And to you, men and noble women, whatever your names, ranks and titles, including some of you who are pillars of your nation, in city and countryside alike, in noble Iraq and fighting for the good cause, we hope to offer you more than our greetings and esteem. For what we know and feel about you, in the depth of our conscience, our being and our hearts, is more than can be contained there. We offer you all that there is in our being, our souls, our conscience and our hearts. We are yours wholly, defending the honour of the burden of fulfilment that you are bearing, your steadfast faith, your firmness in standing by your country and your nation, the position you have taken in this struggle, and all the fundamental positions of the nation and the community.

Long may you live! Yours be the glory and the victory! May God preserve you, who are great and noble and crowned with glory, and represent faith and confidence in God and the future!

Long live our beloved children, the children of Iraq, who have been the targets of injustice and those who kill childhood, in a despicable attempt to extinguish the radiant life in their souls and eyes and wipe the smile from their lips!

Long live our children, boys and glorious girls both, who are the youth of the glorious future, if God permits.

Long live Iraq and her great people! Long live the fearless men of her armed forces, with the watchers in the skies above them, and her people on the ground below, and the men of our anti-aircraft batteries.

Long live our glorious nation! May God grant her the best of everything!

Long live Palestine, free and Arab!

God is most great! May the contemptible ones be confounded!

Enclosure II

[Original: Arabic and Russian]

Joint Russian-Iraqi Declaration

Pursuant to an exchange of messages between Mr. Boris Yeltsin, President of the Russian Federation, and Mr. Saddam Hussein, President of the Republic of Iraq, Mr. Tariq Aziz, Deputy Prime Minister of the Republic of Iraq, visited Moscow on 18 and 19 November 1997, where he met Mr. Yeltsin and engaged in in-depth and intensive talks with Mr. Yevgeni Primakov, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation.

Both the exchange of messages between the two Presidents and the talks between Mr. Aziz and Mr. Primakov were aimed at finding a political and diplomatic solution to the current crisis. An agreement was reached whereby Iraq will accept the return of the Special Commission, with its full complement of members, to resume its regular work in Iraq as from 20 November 1997.

The Russian Federation, for its part, will work actively, subject to Iraq's implementation of the relevant Security Council resolutions, for a speedy lifting of the sanctions against Iraq, and, in particular, for the implementation of paragraph 22 of resolution 687 (1991) in strict conformity with the provisions set forth in it, and without any additional conditions. To that end, it will take active measures to enhance the effectiveness of the work of the Special Commission, while respecting the sovereignty and security of Iraq.

The two sides will remain in contact in accordance with the agreements reached.

UNITED NATIONS **S**

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1997/909
20 November 1997

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 20 NOVEMBER 1997 FROM THE REPRESENTATIVES OF CHINA, FRANCE, THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION, THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND AND THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

We have the honour to transmit herewith the text of a statement agreed upon in Geneva on 20 November 1997 by the Foreign Ministers of France, the Russian Federation, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America and the representative of the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China.

We should be grateful if you would have the text of the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) QIN Huasun
Permanent Representative of the
People's Republic of China
to the United Nations

(Signed) Alain DEJAMMET
Permanent Representative of
France to the United Nations

(Signed) Sergey LAVROV
Permanent Representative of the
Russian Federation to the
United Nations

(Signed) Bill RICHARDSON
Permanent Representative of the
United States of America to the
United Nations

(Signed) Stephen GOMERSALL
Chargé d'affaires of the United
Kingdom of Great Britain and
Northern Ireland to the
United Nations

Annex

Statement agreed upon in Geneva on 20 November 1997 by the Foreign Ministers of France, the Russian Federation, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America and the representative of the Minister for Foreign Affairs of China

On the night leading into 20 November, in Geneva, there was a meeting of the Foreign Ministers of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the Russian Federation, the United States of America and France and the representative of the Minister for Foreign Affairs of China.

The participants in the meeting underscored the importance of the efforts in solidarity of the five permanent members of the Security Council aimed at the unconditional and complete fulfilment by Iraq of all the relevant Security Council resolutions.

They appreciated the diplomatic initiative undertaken by the Russian Federation, in contact with the other permanent members of the Security Council, which the participants in the meeting hope will lead to the unconditional decision by the leadership of Iraq to accept the return of the personnel of the United Nations Special Commission (UNSCOM) in its previous composition, for work as stipulated in Council resolution 1137 (1997).

The participants in the meeting supported the intention of the Special Commission, to meet on 21 November in New York to discuss and advise on, among other important issues, ways to make UNSCOM's work more effective on the basis of the Security Council resolutions. The recommendations from that meeting will be subject to the approval of the Security Council.

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20 November 1997

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GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Fifty-second session
Agenda items 81 and 112
MAINTENANCE OF INTERNATIONAL SECURITY
HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTIONS

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-second year

Letter dated 19 November 1997 from the Permanent Representative of Greece to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to draw to your attention the joint statement issued by the Heads of State and Government of countries of South-Eastern Europe at their meeting in Heracleion, Crete, in Greece, on 4 November 1997 (see annex).

I would be grateful if you could have the present letter and its annex circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 81 and 112, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Christos ZACHARAKIS
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

97-32995 (E) 211197

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ANNEX

Joint statement issued at Heracleion, Greece, on 4 November 1997, by the Heads of State and Government of countries of South-Eastern Europe

We, the Heads of State and Government of countries of South-Eastern Europe, President Kiro Gligorov, President Slobodan Milošević, Prime Minister Victor Ciorbea, Prime Minister Ivan Kostov, Prime Minister Fatos Nano, Prime Minister Costas Simitis and Prime Minister Mesut Yilmaz, the Ministers for Foreign Affairs, Mr. Ismail Cem, Mr. Blagoj Handziski, Mrs. Nadezhda Mihailova, Mr. Paskal Milo, Mr. Milan Milutinovich, Mr. Theodoros Pangalos and Mr. Adrian Severin and the Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr. Mihovil Malbasic, participating as an observer, representing the freely elected Governments of the South-Eastern European peoples met for the first time in our history in Crete and agreed on the following:

We shall work together to create in our region conditions for the prosperity of our nations in a framework of peace, security, good-neighbourliness and stability.

We are determined to pursue South-Eastern Europe cooperation, on a mutual and equal basis, in the firm belief that each of us has much to learn from the others.

We shall promote the state of law, the protection of human rights, including the rights of persons belonging to national minorities, including inter-ethnic dialogue, individual freedoms and a market economy that will allow individual enterprises to flourish and generate employment and opportunities for all and especially for youth.

We affirm our commitment to the Charter of the United Nations, the Paris Charter for a New Europe and the Helsinki Final Act, including all 10 principles referred to therein, namely, sovereign equality, respect for rights inherent in sovereignty, refraining from the threat or use of force, inviolability of frontiers, territorial integrity of States, peaceful settlement of disputes, non-intervention in internal affairs, respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the freedom of thought, conscience, religion or belief, equal rights and self-determination of peoples, cooperation among States and fulfilment in good faith of obligations under international law.

We consider that the European orientation of our countries is an integral part of their political, economic and social development.

We aspire to transform our region into an area of cooperation and economic prosperity and, to that effect, we decided to promote good neighbourly relations and respect for international law.

We believe that Europe cannot be complete without our countries and our peoples, representing civilizations and historic traditions that are essential to the establishment of a contemporary European identity. European and Euro-Atlantic integration are essential in promoting the aforementioned objectives.

We shall encourage the cooperation of the genuine representatives of our peoples in our national parliaments, as well as their common intention to create a forum of understanding and friendly relations.

We reconfirmed our support for already existing regional initiatives sharing the same ideals with us, such as Royaumont, the South-East European Cooperative Initiative, Black Sea Economic Cooperation and the Central European Initiative.

We shall promote scientific, educational, cultural and sport relations as a means of strengthening our mutual understanding and friendship.

We shall cooperate with each other in the field of justice, the combat against organized crime, the halting of illicit drug and arms trafficking and the elimination of all forms of terrorism and shall take joint action against illegal and irregular migration.

Our cultural and religious diversity cannot be seen as a threat to our cooperation and security. On the contrary, we believe it is a powerful source of inspiration, creativity and dynamism.

We shall intensify our efforts for the increase of our economic cooperation, the improvement of infrastructure for transport, telecommunications and energy as well as for the establishment of favourable conditions for investments. We invite the competent ministers to meet at least once a year to assess progress.

We shall promote cross-border cooperation and to that effect we invite officials to meet regularly and Ministers of the Economy or Finance, or other Ministers responsible for it, to meet at least once a year to review the progress achieved.

We took into consideration different valuable proposals for the establishment of institutes and centres for the promotion of multilateral cooperation in various fields.

We call upon the Ministers for Foreign Affairs to meet at least once a year to conduct political consultations and to promote cooperation on issues of regional stability and security. Political directors will meet every three months for consultations and report to Ministers.

In order to ensure continuity between the countries undertaking the organization of summit or ministerial meetings as well as of various technical groups, the idea of establishing a joint secretariat will be discussed by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs.

The Heads of State and Government of countries of South-Eastern Europe expressed their warm thanks for the hospitality of Greece in hosting the Crete summit meeting. They decided to hold their next summit meeting in Turkey in 1998.

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20 November 1997

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ON THE UNITED NATIONS PREVENTIVE DEPLOYMENT FORCE PURSUANT TO SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 1110 (1997)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The present report is submitted pursuant to Security Council resolution 1110 (1997) of 28 May 1997. By that resolution the Security Council decided to extend the mandate of the United Nations Preventive Deployment Force (UNPREDEP) until 30 November 1997 and to start as of 1 October 1997, taking into account the conditions prevailing at that time, a two-month phased reduction of the military component by 300 all ranks. This report covers developments in the mission area since my last report dated 11 August 1997 (S/1997/631).

II. COMPOSITION, STRENGTH AND MANDATE OF UNPREDEP

2. During the period under review, the mandate of UNPREDEP has remained unchanged. The mission continues to be headed by my Special Representative, Mr. Henryk J. Sokalski (Poland). The military component is headed by the Force Commander, Brigadier General Bent Sohnemann (Denmark).

3. In the past three months, the military units of UNPREDEP have actively patrolled their respective areas of operation, while the military observers and civilian police have continued their community and border patrols. In accordance with the provisions of Security Council resolution 1110 (1997), the two-month phased reduction of the military component by 300 all ranks commenced on 1 October and will be completed by 30 November 1997. The strength of UNPREDEP will, at that time, consist of two mechanized infantry battalions: a Nordic composite battalion and a United States Army task force, each with a strength of 350 personnel. The two battalions will be supported by a 50-person heavy engineering platoon from Indonesia. In addition to the 750 troops, there will be 35 military observers and 26 civilian police monitors. The authorized strength of 203 in the civilian component, including local staff, will be cut by at least 14 posts. The international civilian and military personnel are now drawn from 49 countries.

4. By the end of the troop drawdown, the total number of observation posts, manned by the Nordic and United States battalions, will have been reduced from

19 (including 3 temporary observation posts) to 8, all of which will be situated at the most sensitive border points. The reduced capacity of the reconfigured Force to monitor the areas along the northern and western borders of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia will partly be compensated by the increased patrolling flexibility and more frequent resort to temporary observation posts.

5. The civilian component of the mission has been actively involved in monitoring and reporting on developments that might affect the maintenance of peace and stability in the country. It has pursued the good offices mandate vested in my Special Representative to assist in promoting a better understanding among the various segments of the population and existing political forces, with a view to easing inter-ethnic tensions and strengthening the application of international standards on human rights. It has advanced the use of preventive techniques, which have allowed the establishment of an active dialogue with the authorities and other major political forces in the country. Discussions and consultations at all levels have the objective of facilitating mutual exchanges of views and encouraging political and inter-ethnic communication. UNPREDEP and the Spillover Monitoring Mission of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) in Skopje have continued to cooperate closely on issues of mutual concern.

6. Based exclusively on voluntary contributions, UNPREDEP has endeavoured to reach out to the vulnerable segments of society through institution-building and experience-sharing. These initiatives have played an important role in building confidence between the people of the host country and the mission. Since mid-1995, the sum total of the extrabudgetary resources mobilized by the office of the Special Representative for social integration projects has amounted to some US$ 6 million, in cash and in kind.

III. ACTIVITIES OF OTHER UNITED NATIONS ORGANIZATIONS, AGENCIES AND PROGRAMMES

7. Various components of the United Nations system are engaged in different forms of assistance to the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. Several of them have established permanent offices in Skopje while others, as part of an imminent exit strategy, have been actively encouraged by UNPREDEP to take over responsibility in their respective areas of activity pending the arrival of a Resident Coordinator of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) to assume the coordination functions temporarily carried out by my Special Representative.

8. United Nations organizations, agencies and programmes that have provided assistance to the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia in their respective areas include the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE), the Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), the International Labour Organization (ILO), the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the United Nations International Development Organization (UNIDO), the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICJRI), the

Universal Postal Union (UPU), the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and the World Trade Organization (WTO).

International Monetary Fund

9. IMF and its resident mission in the host country have actively supported the programme of macroeconomic stabilization by way of three arrangements involving the use of IMF resources. A systemic transformation facility, amounting to SDR 24.8 million (1 SDR = US$ 1.5), was put in place during 1994-1995, followed, in 1995, by a stand-by arrangement of SDR 22.3 million, and in April 1997, by an arrangement under the IMF's concessional Enhanced Structural Adjustment Facility (ESAF). A total of SDR 54.6 million is available under this latest arrangement for the period 1997-1999, of which SDR 9.09 million has already been disbursed. A second disbursement of the same amount is conditional, inter alia, upon the completion of a mid-term review of the programme. IMF also focuses on advancing structural reforms. It has supplemented its three arrangements with an extensive programme of technical assistance, particularly in the areas of fiscal policy administration, tax and expenditure reform, banking supervision, monetary policy reform and the compilation of macroeconomic statistics.

Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

10. The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights has been engaged with the host Government in the elaboration of a technical cooperation project focusing on human rights. The possible elements of the project include incorporation of human rights education into school curricula, development of human rights documentation resources and special programmes to strengthen the Office of the Ombudsman. The project will also involve the possible participation of the academic community, non-governmental organizations and groups in civil society.

Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

11. UNHCR continues to provide assistance to the 3,500 Bosnian refugees still residing in the country. So far, three flights organized under the repatriation scheme have taken back to Bosnia and Herzegovina some 252 refugees. The number of returns is expected to reach 500 by the end of the year. For those not wishing to repatriate, UNHCR will provide assistance to encourage self-sufficiency and diminish dependence on international aid. In 1998, UNHCR will lay greater emphasis on institution-building activities that will focus in particular on filling the lacunae in national legislation relating to refugees and the issue of citizenship and regulations to reduce statelessness. UNHCR will also analyse transit and migratory trends and strengthen its collaboration with States and institutions of regional European structures.

United Nations Children's Fund

12. The UNICEF Office at Skopje is a key partner of the Ministry of Health in the area of nutrition, providing support to service development, the production of public information materials and policy advocacy. The country's first rooming-in facility has been established in the national gynaecological clinic

in Skopje and is expected to be the first of many. The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) is also a significant supporter of the Expanded Programme of Immunization (EPI), supplying vaccines and vaccine storage equipment, as well as supporting the training of health-care staff in new skills and policy expertise in the latest EPI developments. Together with the World Health Organization (WHO), UNICEF has supported the national reimmunization campaign, in response to polio outbreaks in neighbouring countries, for which UNPREDEP has provided some logistics support. In cooperation with the Ministry of Education, UNICEF has supported a significant initiative in primary teaching, which has emerged as a pilot model in educational reform in the countries of the region. UNICEF is also working closely with the Ministry of Labour and Social Policy in the development of alternatives to institutional care. Most recently, this has necessitated major revisions to the legislation on fostering and adoption. UNICEF is further supporting training initiatives for the staff of institutions to enhance the quality of care available.

United Nations Development Programme

13. UNDP has funded a project of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat to assist the Government in formulating a national development strategy which will give directions to the country to move towards a fully open market-based economy and responsive governance. The National Development Strategy will serve as a basis for future action by the Government and the international community in shaping the macroeconomic framework for sustainable growth. Other UNDP activities are focused on the establishment of an investment promotion agency with the technical assistance of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO); and the training of social sector trainers by the Institute of Social Work and Social Policy of the University of Skopje, financed by the Government of Finland, on UNPREDEP's initiative. Prospective programmes will focus on formulating activities in the areas of aid coordination and support to the environmental sector. UNDP has agreed with the authorities of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia to open a country liaison office in Skopje in early 1998. In view of the small amount of UNDP funds available to the country, the office will be headed by a senior UNDP staff member who will be fully in charge of implementing and managing UNDP-financed activities. Should the office raise additional donor resources for development programmes, it would be possible to consider the establishment of a UNDP resident representative position in the country.

United Nations Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention

14. A multisectoral project of drug control capacities is in progress. Its activities include the provision of expert advice on the redrafting of national drug control legislation, support to the Inter-ministerial Commission for Drug Control, a rapid assessment study of the drug use situation and the introduction of a uniform registration and monitoring system. In addition, technical assistance will be provided for the development and implementation of school-based preventive education and workshops on peer counselling and peer-supported outreach for adolescents. Other features are training courses for the police on advanced drug law enforcement techniques and for the customs and border police in land-border controls. The project also includes the development of a computerized drug intelligence system for the customs administration and the

provision of laboratory equipment of drug-testing laboratories and fellowships for selected forensic staff. The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia is included in the group of recipients covered by the joint United Nations International Drug Control Programme (UNDCP)-European Union PHARE programme. The country will benefit from activities aimed at the organization of coordinated and European-compatible land-border controls with Bulgaria and Albania to address the drug trafficking route from Turkey to Italy, strengthening of controls at the Skopje airport and development of computerized systems for intelligence processing, analysis and criminal investigations for the police and customs through the International Criminal Police Organization (Interpol) global network. It will also set up mechanisms for cross-border controlled deliveries and create professional networks for operational exchange of information and cross-border case management.

15. The Office, in cooperation with the Government and with the assistance of UNPREDEP, has recently completed two training courses on organized crime, corruption and money laundering for senior officials in the Ministries of Internal Affairs, Justice and Finance. Follow-up action will focus on examining current penal and banking legislation and creating an effective implementing mechanism, strengthening analytical and operational capabilities, improving inter-ministerial cooperation and enhancing international mutual assistance. Plans are also under way for creating an anti-corruption commission and a cadre of financial police.

World Bank

16. To date, the World Bank has committed US$ 300 million to the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia in support of eight programmes and projects. From an initial focus on macroeconomic stabilization and transformation of ownership, World Bank-supported activities have been diversified to include upgrading the economic infrastructure, promoting private sector growth and strengthening social services and benefits. Most recently, the Bank has continued to support implementation of a structural adjustment loan aimed at completing large-scale privatization, liberalizing trade and reforming agricultural policies. A project has also been approved for primary school renovation, curriculum reform and teachers' training. In the coming months, approval is expected for a second private sector development project to increase access to credit for private businesses and for an irrigation rehabilitation project to renovate existing systems and develop water users' associations. Over the next year, efforts will be concentrated on the preparation of a social sectors adjustment credit, as well as infrastructure projects in transportation, energy, and water supply. The World Bank will continue to work to improve the policy environment for private sector investment and growth.

World Health Organization

17. WHO has, in the past several months, focused on priorities set up in the Collaborative Agreement for 1996 and 1997 between its European Regional Office and the Ministry of Health. Future action will be concentrated on the case management and prevention of tuberculosis; training medical professionals for health promotion in schools; establishing a WHO documentation and information centre at the University Medical Library in Skopje; training in the epidemiology

of crises in public health; and developing and implementing the National Environment and Health Action Plan. WHO will also concentrate on the preparation of a national essential drug list and provide inputs in military medical exercises related to interventions in natural catastrophes, together with the civilian sector and national and international non-governmental organizations and in collaboration with potentially affected countries. The next biennium will also be devoted to reaching regional targets of the "Health for All" priorities of the EUROHEALTH programme, focusing on developing further the plan for a national health policy; preventing and controlling communicable and non-communicable diseases, including diabetes; and providing technical assistance for reconstruction of the pharmaceutical sector.

IV. RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

18. Since my report of 11 August 1997 (S/1997/631), there has been a further gradual improvement of relations between the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and some of its neighbours. Although the name-related dispute with Greece remains unsolved, both countries are continuing negotiations under the auspices of my personal envoy, Mr. Cyrus Vance. Economic relations between the two countries have, however, intensified significantly, as has cross-border traffic. The situation along the Albanian border has been characterized by a number of incidents, including exchanges of fire. In numerous instances, United Nations personnel have been exposed to indiscriminate firing by armed individuals along the border. Some improvement in the exercise of authority by Albanian border personnel has been observed, but the number of regular border guards along Albania's eastern border remains insignificant. Hope has been generated by several high-level meetings at different international forums, notably at the recent summit of the Council of Europe as well as the Balkan summit in Crete, Greece, between the leaderships of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Albania on the one hand, and Bulgaria, on the other.

19. There has been little progress so far regarding the demarcation of the border with the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. During the reporting period, a continuing pattern of patrolling by border units of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and border units of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, respectively, was observed south and north of the United Nations Patrol Line (UNPL). When encountering each other, the patrols of both sides appear to honour their commitment to avoid hostile actions.

20. Domestically, inter-ethnic tensions and socio-economic difficulties continue to affect negatively the strengthening of the country's stability. Last September, the ethnic Albanian Mayor of Gostivar, Mr. Rufi Osmani, was sentenced by the Gostivar Municipal Court to 13 years and eight months' imprisonment on charges of inciting national, racial and religious hatred, organizing resistance against the State and failing to comply with the ruling of the Constitutional Court on the flag issue (see S/1997/631, para. 16). The Chairman of the Gostivar Municipal Council, the Mayor of Tetovo and the Chairman of the Tetovo Municipal Council have also been sentenced to terms of three years and two years and six months. All four have been released pending their appeals. The political scene continues to reflect strains between the ruling coalition and the opposition parties, which are still calling for early

parliamentary elections. However, the Government has advanced work on the new electoral laws, on which it intends to consult both the opposition and the relevant international institutions, notably the Council of Europe. Measures are under way to make the newly created Office of the Ombudsman fully operational. This office, the first such national institution in the southern Balkans, could play an important role in safeguarding the constitutional rights of citizens and effectively promote the concept of the rule of law.

21. The most notable positive development of recent months has been the beginning, under the auspices of the President of the Republic, of an inter-party dialogue on issues most vital to the nation. As a consequence of this dialogue, on 23 October 1997 a joint statement was signed by the leaders of 11 political parties on three major issues: the country's integration into the European Union, membership in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) and the country's relations with its neighbours.

22. The Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights has, in her report of 30 September 1997 (E/CN.4/1998/12), recommended that the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia be removed from her mandate in the light of the considerable progress in the protection of human rights in the country. At the same time, the Special Rapporteur has indicated that some important legal provisions continue to be violated with disturbing frequency, including in the form of abuse of police authority. She has recommended human rights training programmes for the police.

V. OBSERVATIONS

23. Over the past five years, UNPREDEP has successfully contributed to preventing the spillover of conflicts elsewhere in the region into the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. It has promoted dialogue among the various political forces and ethnic communities, provided humanitarian assistance to the local population and helped to initiate a number of development projects which have contributed to enhancing social integration and national capacity- and institution-building. The mission owes much of its success to the active support and cooperation it has received from the host Government and all other political and ethnic forces in the country.

24. Peace and stability in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia continue, however, to depend largely on developments in other parts of the region. In this connection, concerns have emerged over the uncertainty of the outcome of the presidential elections in Serbia and the possible repercussion that this outcome may bring in the area. Increased violence in Kosovo has also raised fears of a spillover effect on ethnic Albanians in the host country. Similarly, the slow progress in implementing the civilian aspects of the Dayton Peace Accords in Bosnia and Herzegovina, particularly in the Republika Srpska, has underscored the need for a longer-term commitment by the international community in that country. Although none of those factors represents an immediate threat to peace and stability in the host country, they highlight the level of unpredictability of, and the dangers inherent in, developments outside the control of the host country's authorities.

25. The effects of inter-ethnic relations on long-term stability remain a matter of concern. Consequently the useful work being carried out in this area by OSCE is very much appreciated. In meetings with my Special Representative, officials of the host Government have made it clear to him that there would be very limited scope for the extension of his good offices role into the area of inter-ethnic relations, considering that there are already several parallel initiatives dealing with the related issues. While my Special Representative has, therefore, not been able to pursue a more active role in this regard, he has continued to report on inter-ethnic issues and developments with a bearing on internal peace and stability. In general, there seems to be growing recognition of the need for additional steps to be taken to harmonize inter-ethnic relations in order to enhance internal stability which, in turn, would have positive effects on the stability of the Balkan region as a whole. In this connection, President Gligorov's initiative to start an inter-party dialogue on issues of vital importance to the nation deserves special mention.

26. The Minister for Foreign Affairs of the host Government, in a letter addressed to me on 3 November 1997 (S/1997/838 and Corr.1), requested an extension of the UNPREDEP mandate for a period of 12 months. He expressed his Government's concern at the continued sources of destabilization in the region, citing in particular the situation in Montenegro and Kosovo, and in Bosnia and Herzegovina; the lack of security along the border with Albania; and the absence of progress in the demarcation of the border with the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia.

27. As indicated in my report of 11 August 1997 (S/1997/631, para. 23), my Special Representative and senior staff at Headquarters have held consultations with the host Government, other international organizations and interested Member States on the type of international presence that would be most appropriate for the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia after 1 December 1997. Much attention in those consultations has been devoted to possible exit strategies, including the modalities of a termination of the UNPREDEP operation when conditions permit.

28. An important element of any exit strategy is to ensure that, once the UNPREDEP operation terminates, proper successor arrangements be put in place to reassure the Government of the international community's continued commitment to peace and stability in the country. These successor arrangements must be carefully designed in consultation with the Government. Within the United Nations family, and under the auspices of my Special Representative, a consultative meeting of the interested organizations and agencies of the system on appropriate successor arrangements is under active consideration for early next year.

29. The reduction of the military component by 300 all ranks, which was initiated on 1 October 1997 pursuant to Security Council resolution 1110 (1997), can be viewed as the commencement of a phased exit in response to the improved situation in the region. The Council may wish to observe the effectiveness of this initial reduction before contemplating its next step. In this regard, Council members may wish to bear in mind that any decision to further downsize the military component could hardly be implemented before the spring of 1998 owing to the severe winter conditions in the region. I intend to revert to the

Council in due course with appropriate recommendations for further reductions, on the basis of a careful assessment of the situation in all its relevant aspects. It can already be anticipated, however, that the following two broad options will lend themselves to consideration by the Council:

Option A: In addition to the current 35 United Nations military observers, UNPREDEP would consist of two task forces composed of a total of 400 soldiers operating from three to four base camps. The predominant task of the military would be to act, through their presence, as a psychological deterrent. However, the limited, yet flexible and mobile capability of the Force would still allow monitoring and patrolling in critical areas, including by establishing temporary observation posts, according to exigencies of the circumstances at a given time. Such a force would also contain a rapid, self-defence reaction capability.

Option B: A total of 100 United Nations military observers would operate from eight team offices, located throughout the Republic's northern and western border areas. This option would provide a reasonably flexible patrolling and monitoring capability, again responsive to prevailing circumstances.

30. In the meantime, I would like to recommend that the mandate of UNPREDEP be extended for an additional period of six months until 31 May 1998 in the strength and configuration described in paragraph 3 of the present report. At the same time, my Special Representative and the Force Commander of UNPREDEP have been instructed to monitor the situation closely so as to be in a position to advise me as soon as conditions would permit a further reduction of the force.

31. An addendum on the financial aspects of the above recommendation will be issued separately.

32. In concluding the present report, I wish to express my gratitude to the Governments that have made their military and police personnel available to UNPREDEP for their contribution to the success of the mission. I also wish to pay tribute to my Special Representative, Mr. Henryk J. Sokalski, and to the Force Commander, Brigadier General Bent Sohnemann, as well as to all the personnel under their command, for their dedication and perseverance in carrying out the tasks entrusted to them by the Security Council.

Annex

Composition and strength of the military and civilian police elements of the United Nations Preventive Deployment Force as at 10 November 1997

Nationality	Military			Civilian police
	Operational	Headquarters	Military observers	
Argentina	–	–	1	–
Bangladesh	–	–	2	–
Belgium	–	–	1	–
Brazil	–	–	2	–
Canada	–	–	1	–
Czech Republic	–	–	1	–
Denmark	38	9	1	–
Egypt	–	–	1	–
Finland	352	15	1	6
Ghana	–	–	1	–
Indonesia	50	1	2	–
Ireland	–	–	2	–
Jordan	–	–	2	2
Kenya	–	–	2	–
Nepal	–	–	1	–
New Zealand	–	–	1	–
Nigeria	–	–	1	4
Norway	37	6	2	–
Pakistan	–	–	2	–
Poland	–	–	2	–
Portugal	–	–	1	–
Russian Federation	–	–	2	2
Sweden	32	7	1	–
Switzerland	–	–	1	4
Turkey	–	–	–	4
Ukraine	–	–	1	4
United States of America	366	11	–	–
Total	875	49	35	26

Map No. 4017 Rev. 1 UNITED NATIONS
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Cartographic Section

UNITED NATIONS **S**

Security Council

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S/1997/912
20 November 1997
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: FRENCH

LETTER DATED 18 NOVEMBER 1997 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF LUXEMBOURG TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to bring to your attention the statement issued on 10 November 1997 by the Presidency of the European Union concerning the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Jean-Louis WOLZFELD
Permanent Representative of Luxembourg
to the United Nations

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Annex

[Original: English and French]

Statement issued on 10 November 1997 by the Presidency of the European Union concerning the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia

1. The European Union, recognizing the important role the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia has to play in the region and in Europe, wishes to set out its policy clearly to the people of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia.

2. It is a policy based on a fair approach and equal opportunities for all the countries of the region.

3. The European Union wishes to see a Federal Republic of Yugoslavia that is peaceful, prosperous and democratic, one that has taken its rightful place in the European family. This will require the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia to live up to the same standards as the rest of Europe.

4. Many of the countries in the European Union have faced economic problems similar to those that now beset the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. It is wrong to believe that there are easy and simple solutions to the problems the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia faces. The lesson of the last 40 years is that it is by working together with other Europeans that economic well-being is most speedily restored.

5. The rhetoric of nationalism and ethnicity has no place in modern Europe. The policies that lie behind it have failed the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, and brought its people to amongst the poorest in the region. Neither the European Union nor the international community is to blame for this.

6. The European Union urges cooperation with the international community to build a fully democratic Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, enjoying a genuinely free press, with equality of opportunity for all, an open and modern economy that brings benefits to all and an impartial judicial system.

7. The European Union has the same expectations of all the countries in the region: full respect for democracy and human rights; a commitment to work for a just peace through implementation of the Dayton Agreement, including by full cooperation with the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia, and the other accords that ended the war; good neighbourliness; and a constructive approach to solving the ethnic and minority problems of the region, in particular in Kosovo. Real progress in these areas would enable the European Union to develop further its relations with the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia.

8. Together its people must choose how best to bring the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia to its rightful and prosperous place in the community of nations.

UNITED
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20 November 1997

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LETTER DATED 20 NOVEMBER 1997 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF CROATIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to enclose herewith a letter dated 20 November 1997 from the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Croatia, Mr. Mate Granić, addressed to you.

May I ask for your kind assistance in circulating this letter as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Ivan ŠIMONOVIĆ
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Annex

Letter dated 20 November 1997 from the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of Croatia addressed to the Secretary-General

I would like to thank you for your letter in which you have presented the position of the United Nations Secretariat regarding the request of the Government of the Republic of Croatia for police monitors in Eastern Slavonia, Baranja and Western Sirmium in the period after the termination of the mandate of the United Nations Transitional Administration for Eastern Slavonia, Baranja and Western Sirmium (UNTAES) on 15 January 1998. Your response directed at providing support to the Republic of Croatia for the comprehensive implementation of the process of reintegration and stabilization of the situation in the region I find both constructive and acceptable.

Based on the assurances that the UNTAES mandate will terminate on 15 January 1998, please allow me to convey the official position of my Government in this regard.

The Republic of Croatia accepts the activities of the Civilian Police Support Group, numbering 180 personnel for a single nine-month period, with the provision that their presence in Croatia could be shortened in duration, in line with the positive development of the situation in the region.

As regards the future activities of the Civilian Police Support Group, the Government of Croatia confirms the agreement that it shall be territorially strictly limited to the Danube region, i.e., to the territory currently covered by the UNTAES mandate. The Republic of Croatia accepts the activities of the Civilian Police Support Group to monitor Croatian police activity in the Danube region and provide assistance to improve its professional capability. I also find acceptable the proposed organizational framework of the Civilian Police Support Group in Vukovar under the overall responsibility of a small substantive unit based in Zagreb, as well as your intention to nominate the senior official.

Once again, I emphasize the readiness of the Government of Croatia to provide the necessary protection, if needed, to the Civilian Police Support Group, which will act in the Danube region after 15 January 1998.

In the spirit of mutual cooperation as manifested during the talks between the President of the Republic of Croatia, Dr. Franjo Tudman, and the United Nations Transitional Administrator, Mr. William Walker, and through the exchange of letters between the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Government of Croatia, I take the liberty to express our expectation that the Security Council will endorse this agreement in its entirety and with no changes, confirming the fact that the situation in the Croatian Danube region no longer and in no way constitutes a threat to international peace and security.

The Republic of Croatia remains determined to bring the process of peaceful reintegration of the Danube region to its successful end to the satisfaction and benefit of all its citizens and as proof of the commitment of the Government of Croatia to continue to act as an agent of peace and guarantor of stability in the region.

(Signed) Dr. Mate GRANIĆ

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LETTER DATED 19 NOVEMBER 1997 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF TAJIKISTAN TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of a statement by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Tajikistan dated 19 November 1997.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Rashid ALIMOV
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Annex

Statement by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Tajikistan
dated 19 November 1997

Thanks to the consistent policy of Tajikistan's leadership aimed at intensifying the process of strengthening lasting peace and stability in the region, the laborious work of implementing the provisions of the General Agreement on the Establishment of Peace and National Accord in Tajikistan has been going on for about five months now.

Meanwhile, certain forces that are acting to undermine the authority of Tajikistan in the eyes of the world community and harbouring plans for active opposition to the agreements reached between the Government of Tajikistan and the United Tajik Opposition are continuing to strike insidious blows against the delicate shoots of the peace initiatives being implemented in the country.

For example, on 18 November 1997 unknown persons kidnapped two staff members of the mission of the Technical Assistance to the Commonwealth of Independent States and Georgia and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in Tajikistan, whose fate so far remains unknown.

Clearly, the gangsters who committed this terrorist act were pursuing the aim of intimidating the staff of foreign missions accredited in our country. They are also interested in stirring up the situation in Tajikistan and nullifying the positive socio-political developments that have occurred as a result of the purposeful work of people who are not indifferent to the fate of their country.

It is especially worthy of note that the crime was committed on the eve of the forthcoming international conference of donor countries which is to begin its work in the next few days in the Austrian capital of Vienna and is intended to resolve issues of the post-conflict economic development of Tajikistan that are vital for the country. This clearly anti-national action is aimed at undermining the efforts of friendly countries and international organizations which are sincerely concerned to achieve accord and progress in Tajikistan.

Tajikistan has set out strongly on a peaceful course of building a free and economically developed State, and no forces will succeed in hindering this process, for it is the will of the people.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Tajikistan strongly condemns the criminal act committed against nationals of a foreign State, and states that the forces of law and order in the country will take steps to secure their release and punish the criminals with the full force of the law.

UNITED NATIONS

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GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Fifty-second session
Agenda item 61
QUESTION OF CYPRUS

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-second year

Letter dated 20 November 1997 from the Permanent Representative of Cyprus to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government and further to my letters dated 12 November 1997 (A/52/684-S/1997/897) and 4 November 1997 (A/52/569-S/1997/852), I have the honour to protest strongly the illegal Turkish actions of increasing its occupation forces with new military equipment and men as per the attached list. According to our information, after the termination of the Turkish military exercise "Toros 1997", illegally held in the occupied part of Cyprus, Turkey has not withdrawn the additional equipment and men brought in under the pretext of that exercise.

These actions constitute a violation of repeated General Assembly and Security Council resolutions and are in complete disregard of international law and the Charter of the United Nations. Moreover, they seriously affect the credibility of the Security Council, whose resolutions provide for the withdrawal of the occupation troops. These actions further escalate the tension in the island, raising serious questions concerning the true aims and intentions of Turkey towards Cyprus.

I should also like, on behalf of the Government of the Republic of Cyprus to protest strongly the participation of a high-level Turkish delegation, headed by the Turkish Deputy Prime Minister, Mr. Bulent Ecevit, and the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr. Ismail Cem, at the "celebrations" marking the fourteenth anniversary of the illegal declaration of the so-called "Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus", in the occupied part of Cyprus.

This action, in our view, is an insult to the United Nations since Security Council resolutions categorically condemned the declaration of the purported secession of part of the Republic of Cyprus, considered such declaration as

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legally invalid and called for its withdrawal and upon all States not to recognize any Cypriot state other than the Republic of Cyprus (Council resolution 541 (1983) of 18 November 1983). The Security Council further condemned all subsequent secessionist actions and reiterated its call upon all States not to recognize the purported state of the "Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus" set up by secessionist acts and called upon them not to facilitate or in any way assist the aforesaid secessionist entity (Council resolution 550 (1984) of 11 May 1984).

While strongly protesting these actions on the part of the Turkish Government, the Government of the Republic of Cyprus requests that all urgent and necessary measures be taken so that Turkey abandons its intransigent position and complies with the will of the international community. In this context, we believe that it is time the Security Council examines alternative ways and means to promote the implementation of its resolutions.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly under agenda item 61, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Sotos ZACKHEOS
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annex

NEW MILITARY EQUIPMENT BROUGHT INTO THE OCCUPIED AREA

24 September

Eight automatic firearms 155 klm (type M-52TS)

14 October

Twenty-eight advanced armoured personnel carriages (AAPC) type M113

16 October

Twelve mobile artillery units (M110, 203 mm)

23 October

Seventeen M48A5T2 tanks

25 October

Seventeen M48AT2 tanks

On 10 and 11 November 1997, a number of transport and tank landing ships docked at Famagusta port. According to reliable information, new weaponry was unloaded.

During the above-mentioned period, about 3,000 troops of the Turkish army, including special commando forces, arrived in the occupied areas. A relevant amount of ammunition was also delivered, along with more than 200 auxiliary vehicles (jeeps, trucks).